

## Message Text

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61/41  
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 W  
----- 057247

P 211620Z NOV 73  
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3886  
CINCPAC PRIORITY  
COMUSSAG PRIORITY  
COMUSMACTHAI PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 12872

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y

E.O. 11652 GDS  
TAGS: MILI, MASS, EAID, CB, VS  
SUBJ: CAMBODIAN RESUPPLY; FIRST UPDATE

SECSTATE PASS AID, SECDEF, CJCS.  
SAIGON ALSO FOR USDAO

REF: PHNOM PENH 12193/080100Z NOV 73

1. THIS MESSAGE PRESENTS A FIRST UPDATE OF CAMBODIAN RESUPPLY PROBLEMS. TO SAVE TIME, WE CAST IT IN THE FORM OF AN ANALYSIS OF ACTIONS WE BELIEVE ARE NOW REQUIRED, RATHER THAN A FULL PROGRESS REPORT. WE GREATLY APPRECIATE THE EFFECTIVE SUPPORT ALREADY PROVIDED BY AMEMBASSY SAIGON, COMUSSAG, AND CINCPAC, AND IN PARTICULAR THE EXTRAORDINARY RICE SUPPLY ACTIONS BY THE NSC AND WASHINGTON AGENCIES (SECSTATE 224563/1403132 NOV 73). RECOMMENDATIONS BELOW ARE STRUCTURED ON AN EIGHT-DAY CONVOY CYCLE WHICH, ON THE BASIS OF DETAILED ANALYSIS BY COMUSSAG, APPEAR TO BE OPTIMUM.

PART I: AMMUNITION

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2. CURRENTLY THERE ARE FOUR PROBLEMS IN BUILDING UP TO A STOCKAGE LEVEL OF 30 DAYS SUPPLY BY 31 DECEMBER,  
(A) TOTAL ASSETS ON HAND AS OF 19 NOVEMBER HAD DECLINED TO 6,300 SHORT TONS FROM THE 7,500 ON HAND IN EARLY NOVEMBER. THIS

IS ATTRIBUTABLE BOTH TO RECENT INCREASES IN CONSUMPTION AND DEPLETION OF STOCKS ON HAND IN THAILAND TO SUPPORT CURRENT REQUIREMENTS.

(B) MSCFE ESTIMATES THE MAXIMUM SURFACE LIFT CAPABILITY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER AT 7,400 SHORT TONS (MSCO SATTAHIP THAILAND 201001Z NOV 73). THUS WE WILL REQUIRE A MINIMUM OF 2,600 SHORT TONS TO BE MOVED BY AIR JUST TO SUSTAIN CONSUMPTION (10,000 SHORT TONS/MONTH). BUILD-UP FROM 6,300 TO 10,000 SHORT TONS WILL REQUIRE ANOTHER 3,700 SHORT TONS BY AIRLIFT FOR A TOTAL OF AT LEAST 6,300 SHORT TONS.

(C) THERE IS A VERY REAL DANGER THAT THERE WILL NOT BE ENOUGH AMMO IN THAILAND TO LOAD AVAILABLE BARGES TO CAPACITY FOR MEKONG CONVOYS OF 11 AND 19 DECEMBER. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ITEM IN SHORTFALL IS 105MM HE. NEXT RESUPPLY SHIP IS DUE IN VAYAMA ON 6 DECEMBER. AMMON ON THIS SHIP WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR AIR MOVEMENT OR BARGE LOADING, IN SIGNIFICANT QUANTITIES, UNTIL APPROXIMATELY 10 DECEMBER EVEN IF SHIP ARRIVES AS CURRENTLY SCHEDULED. THIS IS TOO LATE FOR EITHER 11 DECEMBER OR 19 DECEMBER CONVOY. ANY SHORTFALL FROM THE PLANNED 2,400 SHORT TONS ON EACH CONVOY WILL HAVE TO BE ADDED TO AIRLIFT.

(D) TO DATE, NO ACTION HAS BEEN APPROVED ON ACQUISITION OF 9 ADDITIONAL BULLDOZERS REQUIRED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL AMMO DEPOT IN PHNOM PENH AREA. SITES HAVE BEEN OBTAINED AND FANK HAS DEVOTED 2 DOZERS TO THE PROJECT AND EFFORTS ARE UNDER WAY TO MAKE TWO MORE AVAILABLE.

3. ACTIONS WE BELIVE ARE NOW REQUIRED ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) LOCATE AN ADEQUATE SOURCE OF AMMUNITION FOR MAP CAMBODIA. ACTION TO MAKE AVAILABLE APPROXIMATELY 1,600 SHORT TONS OF AMMO FROM RVNAF STOCKS ON A ONE-TIME BASIS HAS BEEN HELPFUL. THE FIRST INCREMENT OF THIS AMMO (APPROXIMATELY ONE THOUSAND SHORT TONS) HAS BEEN CALLED FORWARD FOR SHIPMENT ON THE 3 DECEMBER CONVOY. THE REMAINDER WILL BE CALLED FORWARD AS USDAO SAIGON INDICATES ITS AVAILABILITY. HOWEVER, TO MEET THE 30 DAYS OF SUPPLY GOAL BY 31 DECEMBER IT WILL BE NECESSARY (AS OUTLINED IN CHMEDTC 200555Z NOV 73 NOTAL) EITHE (A) FOR USARPAC TO TAKE THE EXTRA-ORDINARY ACTION OFREPLENISHING STOCK IN THAILAND BY AIR, OR (B)FOR A  
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FURTHER DRAWING ON RVNAF STOCKS TO BE AUTHORIZED, NOTABLY FOR 105MM AMMUNITION. TOTAL REQUIREMENTS FOR 105MM TO MEET THE 31 DECEMBER GOAL ARE 230,000 ROUNDS OR 6,740 SHORT TONS. SEEN FROM THIS ANGLE RVNAF DRAWINGS APPEAR TO BE THE ONLY PRACTICAL WAY TO PROVIDE THE NEEDED STOCKS IN TIME. ALL SUCH DRAWINGS WOULD, OF COURSE,HAVE TO BE CHARGED TO MAP CAMBODIA. (ACTION REQUESTED: AMEMBASSY SAIGON; SECDEF)

(B) OBTAIN ADDITIONAL BARGE AND TUG ASSETS. IN ORDER TO MEET OUR REQUIREMENTS AND DIMINISH THE CURRENT HEAVY RELIANCE ON AIRLIFT, 2 ADDITIONAL TUGS (FOR A TOTAL OF 7) AND 3 (1200 TON) ADDITIONAL BARGES (FOR A TOTAL OF 10 BARGES) ARE REQUIRED FOR THE LONG HAUL, IF THE SOURCE CONTINUES TO BE SATTAHIP (SEE CHMEDTC 130620Z NOV 73 NOTAL AND CHMEDTC 201510Z NOV 73 NOTAL). IF RVNAF STOCKS

BECOME THE SOLE SOURCE OF AMMO FOR MAP CAMBODIA, AS WOULD BE THE MOST EFFICIENT ARRANGEMENT, WE WOULD NEED NO ADDITIONAL TUGS AND 2 ADDITIONAL (1200 TONS) BARGES. MSCFE ESTIMATES THAT THE ADDITIONAL TUG AND BARGE ASSETS WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE BEFORE JANUARY 74. WE SHOULD ACT NOW TO CHARTER THE ADDITIONAL ASSETS REQUIRED, GOING FOR THE LARGER PACKAGE IF RESUPPLY OUT OF SATTAHIP IS MAINTAINED AND FOR THE SMALLER ONE IF RESUPPLY OUT OF SAIGON IS AUTHORIZED. (ACTION REQUESTED: COMSC WASHINGTON). (C) REACH A 45 DAYS OF SUPPLY STOCK BY MID FEBRUARY. ADDITIONAL FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40 MILLION WILL BE REQUIRED. THIS PROVIDES SUFFICIENT FUNDS FOR BUILD-UP, CONSUMPTION AND SUPPLY CONTINUITY THROUGH MID-FEBRUARY ASSUMING THE \$30.1 MILLION, NOW PENDING, IS ALSO APPROVED. (ACTION REQUESTED: SECDEF) IN ADDITION THE 9 BULLDOZERS REQUESTED IN REFTTEL ARE URGENTLY NEEDED. SEE CINCPAC 100132 NOV NOTAL FOR STATUS LATEST ACTION. (ACTION REQUESTED: CINCPAC/JCS/SECDEF).

PART II: PETROLEUM

4. THE TARGET IS TO REACH 60 DAYS OF SUPPLY FOR MILITARY POL AS WELL AS FO AND IDO IN CIVILIAN POL AND 30 DAYS FOR ALL OTHER CIVILIAN POL. AS OF THE 21ST OF NOVEMBER, THERE REMAIN 53,711 CUBIC METERS OF POL TO BE BROUGHT TO PHNOM PENH IN ORDER TO MEET THESE OBJECTIVES BY 31 DEC. THE NEXT CONVOY SCHEDULED FOR 25 NOVEMBER WILL CARRY 6,570 CUBIC METERS OF POL THEREBY LEAVING A REQUIREMENT OF 47,141 CUBIC METERS OF POL WHICH HAVE TO BE TRANSPORTED TO PHNOM PENH. THERE ARE THREE PROBLEMS TO COVERCOME:

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NOTE BY OC/T: PHNOM PENH 12872 NOT PASSED AID, CJCS, AND DODE.

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**To:** STATE  
CINCPAC  
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